

CLAIMS

1. An aqueous composition for reducing malodor impression, said composition comprising from about 0.01 to 10.0 weight percent of a surfactant/solubilizer, from about 0.01 to about 20.0 weight percent of a solvent/drying aid, from about 0.01 to about 1.0 weight percent of a fragrance, from about 0.05 to about 5.0 weight percent odor absorber, sufficient buffering agent to maintain the pH of the solution between 3 and 7, and the balance water.

2. The aqueous composition of claim 1, wherein said surfactant/solubilizer is selected from the group consisting of nonionic, anionic, cationic, and amphoteric surfactants having the ability to solubilize perfumes having a C log P value greater than about 3.

3. The aqueous composition of claim 1, wherein said solvent/drying aid is a non-volatile organic compound.

4. The aqueous composition of claim 1, wherein said fragrance is a perfume having a C log P value greater than about 3.

5. The aqueous composition of claim 1, wherein said odor absorber is a water soluble metal salt.

6. The aqueous composition of claim 1, wherein said buffering agent comprises a mixture of sodium citrate and a buffering acid, and is present in sufficient quantity to maintain said solution at a pH level between 4.5 and 5.5.

7. The aqueous composition of claim 1, wherein said surfactant/solubilizer is selected from the group consisting of linear primary alcohol ethoxylates, ethoxylated fatty alcohols, linear primary alcohols, polyoxyethylene ethers, alkoxylated biodegradable hydrophobes, linear-ethylene oxide, quaternary ammonium halides, ether sulfates, betaines, amine oxides, and mixtures thereof.

8. The aqueous composition of claim 7, wherein said solvent drying aid is selected from the group consisting of glycol ethers, glycol ether acetates, and mixtures thereof.

9. The aqueous composition of claim 7, wherein said fragrance is a perfume having a C log P value greater than about 3.

10. The aqueous composition of claim 7, wherein said odor absorber is selected from the group consisting of acetates, chlorides, sulfates, nitrates, gluconates, maleates, lactates, and salicylates of zinc, copper, silver, zirconium, nickel, chromium, and other transition metals.

11. The aqueous composition of claim 1, wherein said surfactant/solubilizer is a linear primary alcohol ethoxylate, comprising from about 1 to about 2 weight percent of the composition.

12. The aqueous composition of claim 11, wherein said solvent/drying aid is a glycol ether, comprising from about 3 to about 6 weight percent of said composition.

13. The composition of claim 12, wherein said solvent/drying aid is selected from the group consisting of diethylene glycol monoethyl ether, diethylene glycol butyl ether, and mixtures thereof, and comprises from about 4 to about 5 weight percent of the composition.

14. The composition of claim 11, wherein said odor absorber is a zinc salt, comprising from about 0.075 to about 0.2 weight percent of the composition..

15. An aqueous composition comprising a perfume having a C log P value greater than about 3, a surfactant/solubilizer selected from the group consisting of linear primary alcohols, ethoxylated fatty alcohols, linear primary alcohol ethoxylates,

polyoxyethylene ethers, alkoxyated biodegradable hydrotropes, ether sulfates, linear ethylene oxide, quaternary ammonium halides, betaines, amine oxides, and mixtures thereof; a solvent/drying aid selected from the group consisting of glycol ethers, glycol ether acetates, and mixtures thereof; an odor absorber selected from the group consisting of acetates, chlorides, sulfates, nitrates, gluconates, maleates, lactates, and salicylates of zinc, copper, silver, zirconium, nickel, and chromium, and sufficient buffering agent to maintain the pH of said composition between about 3 and about 7.

16. The aqueous composition of claim 15, further comprising one or more further components selected from the group consisting of preservatives, antimicrobials, anti-static compositions, anti-wrinkling agents, insect control agents, moth repellents, UV protectants, waterproofing agents, color protectants, and other textile treatment agents.

17. The aqueous composition of claim 15, wherein said perfume comprises from about 0.01 to about 1.0 percent, the surfactant/solubilizer from about 0.01 to about 10 percent, and the solvent/drying aid from about 0.01 to about 20 percent of the composition.

18. The aqueous composition of claim 17, wherein said surfactant/solubilizer is a linear primary alcohol ethoxylate.

19. The aqueous composition of claim 18, wherein said ethoxylate comprises from about 0.5 to about 5 percent of the composition.

20. The aqueous composition of claim 18, wherein said solvent/drying aid is selected from the group consisting of glycol ethers and mixtures thereof.

21. The aqueous composition of claim 20, wherein said solvent/drying aid comprises from about 1 to about 10 percent of the composition.

22. The aqueous composition of claim 21, wherein said solvent/drying aid comprises a mixture of diethylene glycol monoethyl ether and diethylene glycol butyl ether, and comprises from about 3 to about 6 percent of the composition.

23. The aqueous composition of claim 17, wherein said odor absorber is a zinc salt, and comprises from about 0.04 to about 1.0 percent of the composition.

24. The aqueous composition of claim 17, wherein said buffering agent comprises from about 0.1 to about 1.0 percent of the composition, and comprises sodium citrate.

25. The aqueous composition of claim 24, wherein said pH adjustment agent further comprises citric acid.

26. A method for reducing malodor of a surface, said method comprising applying to said surface an effective amount of an aqueous solution comprising a perfume having a C log P value greater than 3, a surfactant/solubilizer for said perfume, a solvent/drying aid for said perfume, a water soluble metal salt odor absorber, and sufficient buffering agent to maintain the pH of said composition between about 3 and about 7.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein said surfactant/solubilizer is selected from the group consisting of linear primary alcohols, ethoxylated fatty alcohols, linear primary alcohol ethoxylates, polyoxyethylene ethers, alkoxylated biodegradable hydrotropes, ether sulfates, linear ethylene oxide, quaternary ammonium halides, betaines, amine oxides, and mixtures thereof; said solvent/drying aid is selected from the group consisting of glycol ethers, glycol ether acetates, and mixtures thereof; said odor absorber is selected from the group consisting of acetates, chlorides, sulfates, nitrates, gluconates, maleates, lactates, and salicylates of zinc, copper, silver, zirconium, nickel, and chromium; and said buffering agent comprises

a citrate salt, provided that when said surfactant/solubilizer is not acidic, said buffering agent further comprises an acid selected from the group consisting of citric, succinic, and acetic acids.

5 28. The method of claim 27, wherein said surfactant/solubilizer comprises a linear primary alcohol ethoxylate.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein said ethoxylate comprises from about 1 to about 2 percent of said composition.

10 30. The method of claim 27, wherein said solvent/drying aid is selected from the group consisting of glycol ethers and mixtures thereof.

15 31. The method of claim 30, wherein said solvent/drying aid comprises a mixture of diethylene glycol monoethyl ether and diethylene glycol butyl ether.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein said mixture comprises from about 3 to about 6 percent of the composition.

20 33. The method of claim 26, wherein said surfactant/solubilizer comprises a linear primary alcohol ethoxylate, said solvent/drying aid comprises a mixture of diethylene glycol monoethyl ether and diethylene glycol butyl ether, said odor absorber comprises a zinc salt, and said sufficient buffering agent is present to maintain the pH of the solution between 4.5 and 5.5.

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